

IN THE CLAIMS

1 (Currently Amended). A method comprising:
detecting the coupling of a power sink to a power source;
~~automatically providing requesting a power class identifier to said indication from the sink; and~~
~~using said power class identifier in said power sink to determine whether to receive power from said power source, indication to determine whether to supply power to said sink.~~

2 (Currently Amended). The method of claim 1 including detecting the coupling of a plurality of power sinks to the power source and sending ~~a~~ ~~the~~ data signal between the source and each sink to determine whether the source can provide power to each sink.

3 (Currently Amended). The method of claim 1 ~~including providing wherein detecting the coupling of a power sink to a power source includes receiving a self-identifier packet to at the source from the sink.~~

6 (Original). The method of claim 2 including determining the available power of the source based on the power requirements of a particular sink.

7 (Original). The method of claim 2 including determining whether to supply power to a given sink based on the power requirements of any sinks already coupled to said source and the power capacity of said source.

8 (Original). The method of claim 2 including supplying sufficient power for enumeration to a sink coupled to said source.

9 (Original). The method of claim 8 wherein if the source is unable to supply power to the sink, refusing to supply power to said sink except for enumeration.

10 (Original). The method of claim 1 including sending an identifier to said source that is used by the source to determine whether the source can supply power to said sink.

11 (Currently Amended). An article comprising a medium storing instructions that enable a processor-based system to:

detect the coupling of a ~~power sink~~ to a power source;
~~receive request a power class identifier indication from the power sink; and~~
~~use said identifier to determine whether to receive the available power from on~~
~~said source is sufficient to supply the power needs of said power sink.~~

12 (Original). The article of claim 11 further storing instructions that enable the processor-based system to detect a coupling of a plurality of power sinks to the power source and send the data signal between the source and each sink to determine whether the source can provide power to each sink.

13 (Original). The article of claim 11 further storing instructions that enable the processor-based system to receive a self-identifier packet from the sink.

15 (Previously Presented). The article of claim 11 further storing instructions that enable the processor-based system to receive a power class indication from the sink.

16 (Original). The article of claim 11 further storing instructions that enable the processor-based system to determine its available power based on the power requirements of a sink.

17 (Original). The article of claim 11 further storing instructions that enable the processor-based system to determine whether to supply power to a given sink based on the power requirements of sinks already coupled to the source and the power capacity of said source.

18 (Original). The article of claim 12 further storing instructions that enable the processor-based system to supply sufficient power for enumeration to any sink coupled to said source.

19 (Original). The article of claim 18 further storing instructions that enable the processor-based system, if the source is unable to apply power to the sink, to refuse to supply power to the sink except for enumeration.

20 (Original). The article of claim 11 further storing instructions that enable the processor-based system to use an identifier from a sink to determine whether the source can supply power to the sink.

21 (Currently Amended). A system comprising:

a connection to a source of power; and
~~a plurality of ports to couple said system to power consuming devices; and~~
a processor-based device to analyze which analyzes power class information received from a power source ~~power consuming devices~~ and automatically determine ~~determines~~ whether to receive ~~supply~~ power from ~~to~~ said power source ~~consuming devices through said ports~~.

22 (Original). The system of claim 21 wherein said system includes a fan out physical layer.

23 (Original). The system of claim 21 wherein said system includes an AC adapter.

24 (Previously Presented). The system of claim 21 wherein said processor-based device determines whether to provide power to a power consuming device that is connected to said system.

25 (Original). The system of claim 24 wherein said system provides power to the power consuming device for enumeration and then determines whether to provide additional power to said power consuming device.

Claims 26-30 (Canceled).